

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/725,326

Examiner

Sath V. Perungavoor

Applicant(s)

CROSBY ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/30/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 5-13, and 17-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 03142006.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Sath V Perungavoor
Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

[1] An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

[2] Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Stephen B. Salai (Reg. No. 26,990) on March 14, 2006.

[3] The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 1

1. (Currently Amended) In a distributed computing system, a method of sharing a multi-media object between a first node and a second node, comprising;
at the first node,
storing a digital negative of the multi-media object, wherein the digital negative represents the multi-media object at a first resolution and a first format;
modifying the digital negative to form a resultant image at a second resolution and a second format different from the first resolution and first format;
associating an edit list based on the modifying with the resultant image;
linking the edit list to the digital negative;
at the second node,
fetching the resultant image;
determining an output resolution and an output format of the resultant image;
converting the resultant image to the determined output resolution and the determined output format; and

outputting the resultant image at the determined output resolution and output format; and

wherein the first resolution is a higher resolution than the second resolution; and

wherein the converting comprises:

if the determined output resolution is the second resolution, then outputting the resultant image at the second resolution; and

if the determined output resolution is a third resolution that is different than the first and second resolution, then

fetching the edit list;

fetching the digital negative linked to the edit list;

operating on the digital negative to form the resultant image at the third resolution based upon the edit list.

In Claim 13

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for sharing a multi-media object between a first node and a second node, comprising:

at the first node,

a means for storing a digital negative of the multi-media object, wherein the digital negative represents the multi-media object at a first resolution and a first format;

a means for modifying the digital negative to form a resultant image at a second resolution and a second format;

a means for associating an edit list based on the modifying with the resultant image;

a means for linking the edit list to the digital negative;

at the second node,

a means for fetching the resultant image;

a means for determining an output resolution and an output format of the resultant image;

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a means for converting the resultant image to the determined output resolution and output format; and

a means for outputting the resultant image at the determined output resolution and output format; and

wherein the first resolution is a higher resolution than the second resolution; and

wherein the means for converting comprises:

a means for outputting the resultant image at the second resolution if the determined output resolution is the second resolution;

a means for fetching the edit list;

a means for fetching the digital negative linked to the edit list; and

a means for operating on the digital negative to form the resultant image at the third resolution based upon the edit list if the determined output resolution is a third resolution that is different than the first and second resolution.

In claims 2-4 and 14-16

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 4, 14, 15 and 16.

In claims 5 and 17

Please amend claim 5 to be dependent on claim 1.

Please amend claim 17 to be dependent on claim 13.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

[4] The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant invention is a method for image distribution.

Prior art was found for the claims and applied in the non-final and final office actions. Amended claim recites the operating step to generate a third resolution different than the first and second resolutions. Closest prior art Yokomizo et al. (US 6,522,418) discloses outputting at the highest resolution at Column 5 Line 45-Column 6 Line 30, but does not disclose the operating step. Examiner acknowledges that resolution conversion alone is well known as can be seen from Lamaire et al. (US 6,378,053) at column 14, lines 1-17. In context of the entire claim language, Examiner finds a lack in motivation to combine the two inventions to arrive at the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

[5] Claims 1, 5-13, and 17-24 are allowed.

Contact Information

[6] Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mr. Sath V. Perungavoor whose telephone number is (571) 272-7455. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Bhavesh M. Mehta whose telephone number is (571) 272-7453, can be reached on Monday to

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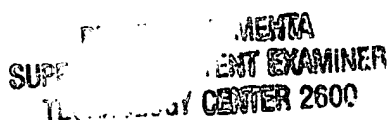
Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dated: March 14, 2006

By: 

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